

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (New) A method for clamping a knife on a chipper disc, the disc having a knife side on which a wear plate is disposed, the chipper disc forming a rotation axis passing through the knife side, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a clamp on the knife side of the disc such that the clamp is disposed axially between the disc and the wear plate and is movable relative to the disc;

positioning the knife between the clamp and the wear plate, with the knife oriented in a projecting direction inclined away from the rotation axis; and

applying to the clamp a first force oriented away from the disc in a direction substantially parallel to said rotation axis to cause the clamp to urge the knife away from the disc and against the wear plate and to cause the clamp to contact the wear plate at a location such that the wear plate applies to the clamp a second force oriented in a direction opposite the projecting direction.

14. (New) The method according to claim 13 wherein the first force is applied to the clamp along a direction intersecting the knife at a location between a tip of the knife and the place of contact of the clamp and the wear plate, wherein a turning moment is applied to the clamp which is transmitted to the knife.

15. (New) A chipper apparatus comprising:

a disc rotatable about a rotation axis and including a knife side, wherein the axis passes through the knife side;

a wear plate fastened on the knife side;

a clamp disposed on the knife side axially between the disc and the wear plate and being movable relative to the disc;

a knife disposed between the clamp and the wear plate and extending in a projecting direction;

a compressing element arranged for exerting a clamping force on the clamp in a direction substantially parallel to the rotation axis and away from the disc to cause the clamp to urge the knife away from the disc and against the wear plate;

the wear plate including a groove having a first surface, and the clamp including a bracket portion extending into the groove, wherein the bracket portion bears against the first surface when the clamping force is applied to the clamp; and

the clamp including a second surface extending transversely of the projecting direction of the knife and against which a portion of the knife is supported.

16. (New) The chipper apparatus according to claim 15 wherein the bracket portion bears against the groove's first surface by means of the clamp's second surface.

17. (New) The chipper apparatus according to claim 15 wherein the clamp includes a projection received in a notch of the knife, the notch arranged

between a tip end of the knife and an inner end of the knife, the projection arranged to transmit the clamping force to the knife.

18. (New) The chipper apparatus according to claim 17 wherein the clamp's second surface is formed by the projection.